

Morgan Klaus Scheuerman

PhD Student
Department of Information Science
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Research Interests

Social computing, algorithmic identity, technical infrastructures, intersectionality, marginalized communities, social impact of emerging technologies, feminist HCI, ethical design.

Education

2022 (EST)

PhD
Information Science
University of Colorado (CU Boulder)

Master of Science

Human-Centered Computing
University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

2018

- Master's Thesis: *Exploring Technology Use for Identity Mediation by Individuals with Diverse Gender Identities*
Advisors: Stacy M Branham, Foad Hamidi
Committee: Amy Hurst, Casey Fiesler
- Independent Study: *Learning the Language: The Importance of Studying Written Directions in Designing Navigational Technologies for the Blind*
Advisor: Stacy Branham

Bachelor of Arts

2016

Communication
Minor in Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Goucher College
– Intensive Course Abroad: Arts Administration in Amsterdam, Netherlands

Associate of Arts

2011

Photography
Harford Community College

Professional Experience

Industry Experience

AUG 2020 – PRESENT	Google (Ethical AI) Student Research Fellow
SUMMER 2020	Google (Ethical AI) Research Intern
SUMMER 2019	Facebook (Community Integrity) — Menlo Park, CA UX Research Intern
SUMMER 2018	University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) — Baltimore, MD (Student Life) User Experience Consultant Project: Relationship Violence and Prevention website redesign
2016 – 2018	University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) — Baltimore, MD (Office of Residential Life) Assistant Community Director (Graduate Assistant)
SUMMER 2017	Northrop Grumman — Fairfax, VA User Experience Intern
JAN – AUG 2016	Mindgrub Technologies — Baltimore, MD Digital Marketing Associate and Creative Copywriter

Research Experience

2019 – PRESENT	University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) GRA (Graduate Research Assistant) Grant: Humanizing Algorithms
2016 – 2017	University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) Research Assistant Project: Exploring Ultra-Mobile Navigation Aids for Blind People Research Team: Amy Hurst, Stacy Branham, Ali Abdolrahmani, William Easley

Teaching Experience

2018—2019	University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) Teaching Assistant Course: <i>INFO 1101: Computation in Society</i> Instructors: William Aspray, Roshanna Sylvester
JAN – MARCH 2016	University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) Volunteer Teaching Assistant Course: <i>Special Topics: 3D Printing and Entrepreneurship</i> Instructor: Erin Buehler

Awards

OCT 2020	Best Paper Award. CSCW 2020 (Top 1%).
OCT 2020	Recognition for Contribution to Diversity and Inclusion. CSCW 2020.

AUG 2020	Outstanding Research Award Awarded by the CU Boulder Information Science Department for the 2019-2020 Academic Year
SEPT 2019	Best Paper Award CSCW 2019 (Top 1%)
FEB 2019	Interdisciplinary Ethics Tech Competition 1 st Place Winner (\$10,000 scholarship from the Daniels Fund Ethics Initiative) Hosted Colorado Law School and Silicon Flatirons
NOV 2018	Recognition for Contribution to Diversity and Inclusion CSCW 2018 (Top 5 of 61 Selected Diversity Papers)
APRIL 2018	Best Paper Award CHI 2018 (Top 1%)

Funding Awards

OCT 2020	Gerald C. Bean Scholarship CMCI (College of Media, Communication and Information) at University of Colorado Boulder Amount: \$500
OCT 2020	GPSG Travel Grant Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) at the University of Colorado Boulder Amount: \$100
SEPT 2018	UGGS Travel Grant United Government of Graduate Students (UGGS) at University of Colorado Boulder Amount: \$300
AUG 2019	Identity Lab Research Grant University of Colorado Boulder Amount: \$1000
NOV 2018 & AUG 2019	CMCI Travel Grant CMCI (College of Media, Communication and Information) at University of Colorado Boulder Amount: \$500
AUG 2018	Information Science PhD Fellowship University of Colorado Boulder Amount: \$1750
MARCH 2018	Graduate Student Association Travel & Presenter Grant Graduate Student Association at University of Maryland, Baltimore County Amount: \$500
MARCH 2017	Google Travel and Conference Grant Google Amount: \$500 + conference registration
MARCH 2017	Graduate Student Association Travel & Presenter Grant

Graduate Student Association at University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Amount: \$750

Guest Lectures

- OCT 2020 **How Computers See Gender.** Guest lecture for *CS 396/496: Human Centered Machine Learning*. Instructor: Stevie Chancellor. Northwestern University.
- MARCH 2020 **Gender Discourse in Facial Analysis Technologies.** Guest lecture for *Crowd Sourced City: Social Media, Technology and Planning Processes*. Instructor: Catherine D'Ignazio. MIT.
- FEB 2020 **How Computers See Gender.** Guest lecture for *Problems in Information Science: Digital Identity*. Instructor: Jed Brubaker. University of Colorado Boulder.
- FEB 2020 **Safety on Social Media for Transgender Individuals.** Guest lecture for *Information Privacy, Surveillance and Exposure*. Instructors: Barb McQuade, Florian Schaub. University of Michigan.
- OCT 2019 **Designing Surveys.** Guest lecture for *Understanding the World Through Data*. Instructor: Jed Brubaker. University of Colorado Boulder.
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Publications

Refereed, Archival Publications

Journals

- [J3] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Kandrea Wade, Caitlin Lustig, Jed R. Brubaker. **How We've Taught Algorithms to See Identity: Constructing Race and Gender in Image Databases for Facial Analysis.** *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 4, CSCW1, Article 58 (May 2020), 35 pages.
(Best Paper Award: Top 1%. Recognition for Contribution to Diversity and Inclusion.)
- [J2] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Jacob M. Paul, Jed R. Brubaker. **How Computers See Gender: An Evaluation of Gender Classification in Commercial Facial Analysis and Image Labeling Services.** *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 3, CSCW, Article 144 (November 2019), 33 pages.
(Acceptance rate: 31%. **Best Paper Award: Top 1%.**)
- [J1] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Stacy M Branham, and Foad Hamidi. **Safe Spaces and Safe Places: Unpacking Technology-Mediated Experiences of Safety and Harm with Transgender People.** 2018. PACMHCI. Volume 2, CSCW Issue. *In Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, Vol. 2, CSCW, Article 155 (November 2018). ACM, New York, NY. 28 pages.
(Acceptance rate: 25%. **Recognition for Contribution to Diversity and Inclusion.**)

Conference Proceedings

- [C2] Foad Hamidi, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Stacy M Branham.
In Proceedings of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '18).
Gender Recognition or Gender Reductionism? The Social Implications of Automatic Gender Recognition System. Montréal, Canada. April 21-26, 2018.

(Acceptance rate: 23%. **Best Paper Award: Top 1%.**)

- [C1] Stacy M Branham, Ali Abdolrahmani, William Easley, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Erick Ronquillo, and Amy Hurst. **Is Someone There? Do they have a Gun?" How Visual Information about Others Can Improve Personal Safety Management for Blind Individuals.** *In Proceedings of the 19th International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS '17)*. Baltimore, Maryland. October 30 – November 1, 2017.
(Acceptance rate: 26%.)

Lightly Reviewed

Posters

- [P1] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, William Easley, Ali Abdolrahmani, Amy Hurst, Stacy M Branham. **Learning the Language: The Importance of Studying Written Directions in Designing Navigational Technologies for the Blind.** *ACM CHI Conference Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '17)*. Denver, Colorado. May 6-11, 2017
(Acceptance rate: 38.7%.)

Workshop Position Papers

- [WP6] Katy Weathington and **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**. **Harm and Data Science: Framing Negative Human Outcomes as a Data Science Problem.** CSCW Workshop on *Interrogating Data Science*. October 2020.
- [WP5] Malinda Dietrich, Katy Weathington, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**. **Defining Data: Questions of "Numerical Facts."** CSCW Workshop on *Interrogating Data Science*. October 2020.
- [WP4] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**. **Contesting Efficacy: Tensions Between Risk and System Efficacy in Facial Analysis Software.** CSCW Workshop on *Contestability In Algorithmic Decision Making*. November 2019.
- [WP3] Anthony T. Pinter, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Jed R. Brubaker. **Designing and Carrying Out Conscientious Research With Marginalized Groups.** CSCW Workshop on *Social Technologies for Digital Wellbeing Among Marginalized Communities*. November 2019.
- [WP2] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman** and Jed Brubaker. **Gender is not a Boolean: Towards Designing Algorithms to Understand Complex Human Identities.** CSCW Workshop on *The Changing Contours of "Participation" in Data-driven, Algorithmic Ecosystems: Challenges, Tactics, and an Agenda*. November 2018.
- [WP1] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Foad Hamidi, Stacy M Branham. **(Ab)user-Centered Design? Considering the Involvement of Abusers in the Design Process.** CHI Workshop on *Understanding "Bad Actors" Online*. April 2018.

Encyclopedia Entries

- [E1] **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman** and Jed Brubaker. **Gender is not a Boolean: Binary Representations of Gender in Computer Vision.** *The SAGE*

Media Publications

Can Gender Be Computed?

- [M1] Foad Hamidi, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman**, Stacy M Branham.
Scientific American via The Conversation US. May 15, 2018.
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/can-gender-be-computed/>

Press Coverage

How Computers See Gender & Implications w/ Morgan Klaus Scheuerman.

- [P14] *DataTalk Podcast*. October 6, 2020.
<https://www.experian.com/blogs/news/datatalk/morgan-klaus-scheuerman/>

Researchers discover evidence of gender bias in major computer vision APIs.

- [P13] *Venture Beat*. August 6, 2020.
<https://venturebeat.com/2020/08/06/researchers-discover-evidence-of-gender-bias-in-major-computer-vision-apis/>

Have Classification Algorithms Gone Too Far? Exploring Gender in AI with Morgan Klaus Scheuerman.

- [P13] *The Radical AI Podcast*. April 9, 2020.
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/have-classification-algorithms-gone-too-far-exploring/id1505229145?i=1000470988393>

Colorado Edition: Algorithmic Identity.

- [P12] *KUNC* radio show. February 12, 2020.
<https://www.kunc.org/post/colorado-edition-algorithmic-identity>

Facial Recognition Makes Changing Your Name Pointless.

- [P11] *OneZero* article by Lux Alptraum. January 30, 2020.
<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/21/tech/ai-gender-recognition-problem/>

AI software defines people as male or female. That's a problem.

- [P10] *CNN* article by Rachel Metz. November 21, 2019.
<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/21/tech/ai-gender-recognition-problem/>

Talk nerdy to me: Gender at a glance.

- [P9] *Science Node* article by Laura Reed. November 8, 2019.
<https://sciencenode.org/feature/Talk%20nerdy%2011-08-19.php>

Facial recognition can't classify transgender or non-binary people, study finds.

- [P8] *Mic* article by Vanessa Taylor. October 30, 2019.
<https://www.mic.com/p/facial-recognition-misclassifies-transgender-non-binary-people-study-finds-19281490>

New Research Reveals Facial Recognition Software Misclassifies Transgender, Non-Binary People.

- [P7] *Forbes* article by Jesse Damiani. October 29, 2019.
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jessedamiani/2019/10/29/new-research-reveals-facial-recognition-software-misclassifies-transgender-non-binary-people/>

CU Boulder research shows facial recognition failures beyond traditional gender norms.

- [P6] *Daily Camera* article by Lucy Haggard. October 21, 2019.
<https://www.dailycamera.com/2019/10/19/cu-boulder-research-shows-facial-recognition->

[failures-beyond-traditional-gender-norms/](#)

Facial recognition AI can't identify trans and non-binary people.

[P5] *Quartz* article by Amrita Khalid. October 16, 2019.
<https://qz.com/1726806/facial-recognition-ai-from-amazon-microsoft-and-ibm-misidentifies-trans-and-non-binary-people/>

Facial recognition software has a gender problem.

[P4] *CU Boulder Today* article by Lisa Marshall. October 8, 2019.
<https://www.colorado.edu/today/2019/10/08/facial-recognition-software-has-gender-problem>

Amazon's Facial Analysis Program Is Building A Dystopic Future For Trans And Nonbinary People

[P3] *Jezebel* article by Anna Merlan and Dhruv Mehrotra. June 27, 2019.
<https://jezebel.com/amazons-facial-analysis-program-is-building-a-dystopic-1835075450>

AI researchers tell Amazon to stop selling 'flawed' facial recognition to the police

[P3] *The Verge* article by James Vincent. April 3, 2019.
<https://www.theverge.com/2019/4/3/18291995/amazon-facial-recognition-technology-rekognition-police-ai-researchers-ban-flawed>

AI experts are calling on Amazon to stop selling facial recognition to law enforcement

[P2] *Quartz* article by Dave Gershgorn. April 3, 2019.
<https://qz.com/1586544/ai-experts-want-amazon-to-stop-selling-facial-recognition-to-law-enforcement/>

7 problems with Trump's "American AI" Initiative

[P1] *Fast Company* article by Katharine Schwab. February 12, 2019.
<https://www.fastcompany.com/90305421/7-problems-with-trumps-american-ai-initiative>

Talks

Invited Talks and Panels

AUG 2020	"How Computers See Gender." Invited Speaker. Stanford's HCI Speaker Series.
DEC 2019	Queer in AI. Invited Panelist. NeurIPS 2019. Vancouver, Canada.
NOV 2019	Diversity & Inclusion Panel. Invited Panelist. CSCW 2019. Austin, TX.
JULY 2019	"Gender Affirmation in Capital 'D' Design: Research Methods & Design Approaches for Trans & Non-Binary Inclusion." Invited Speaker. Pride@Research Lunch and Learn Series. Facebook, 2019. Menlo Park, CA.
JUNE 2019	"Implications of Gendered Infrastructures in Computer Vision." Invited Speaker. Workshop on Fairness Accountability Transparency and Ethics in Computer Vision. CVPR, 2019. Long Beach, CA.

Community Organizing

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS & PANELS

MAY 2020	<p>Michael A. DeVito, Ashley Marie Walker, Caitlin Lustig, Amy J. Ko, Katta Spiel, Alex A. Ahmed, Kimberley Allison, Morgan Klaus Scheuerman, Brianna Dym, Jed R. Brubaker, Ellen Simpson, Naveen Bagalkot, Noopur Raval, Michael Muller, Jennifer Rode, and Mary L. Gray.</p> <p>Queer in HCI: Supporting LGBTQIA+ Researchers and Research Across Domains. Special Interest Group convened as part of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI. Honolulu, Hawaii.</p>
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WORKSHOPS

NOV 2018	<p>CSCW 2018. Jersey City, New Jersey. Informal workshop on developing gender inclusive guidelines for conducting HCI and social computing research.</p>
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Service

Academic and Professional Service

FEB 2020—MAY 2020	<p>Queer in AI at CHI 2020 Volunteer Organizer & Travel Grant Issuer</p>
FEB 2020	<p>Information Science Prospective Student Visit Weekend Lead Organizer</p>
2019 – PRESENT	<p>SIGCHI Inclusion Team Leader for Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation</p>
2019 – PRESENT	<p>Information Science Graduate Student Association Vice President</p>
2018-2019	<p>McNair Scholar Mentorship Program (CU Boulder) Graduate Mentor Mentors one undergraduate student in the McNair Scholars Program (serving first generation college students) for the 2018-2019 academic year</p>
JAN 2018 – MAY 2018	<p>University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) Organizing Committee for Department Fika (Coffee Hour) Human-Centered Computing Department</p>
FEB 2017	<p>Gadgets & Gears Day — Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD Exhibitor for UMBC's PAD (Prototyping and Design) Lab</p>
OCT 2017	<p>ASSETS 2017 — Baltimore, MD Student Volunteer & Halloween Committee (Special Events) Member ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility</p>

Reviewing

(* indicates *Special Recognitions for Outstanding Reviews*)

2021	CSCW, CHI, FAccT
2020	CSCW*, CHI*

2019	CHI, alt.chi, CHI LBW, DIS, CSCW*
2017	CHI

Affiliations

2017 - PRESENT	ACM Student Membership SIGCHI Student Membership
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